

Office of Public Instruction *AIDS Communique*

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AIDS Curriculum Component

The AIDS Curriculum component has been sent to all superintendents, principals and health educators in the state. If you have not received a copy or would like an additional copy, please contact the AIDS Education Specialist at the Office of Public Instruction. It is hoped that the curriculum has been beneficial in developing an AIDS education program in your school that is integrated into a comprehensive health education system.

Regional Workshops on AIDS Education

The Office of Public Instruction will be conducting five regional workshops concerning AIDS and AIDS education in Montana schools. The agenda of the workshops will include a brief AIDS 101 session which will provide general AIDS information on the transmission and prevention of AIDS, a session on safety in the workplace including universal precautions used in all situations, a slide presentation from the American Association of School Administrators depicting present conditions and future predictions of AIDS in the world, policy and procedure information, legal rights and issues concerning AIDS, curriculum planning involving lesson plans, and a general question and answer period.

The workshop dates and locations are as follows:

- April 11—Yogo Inn, Lewistown
- April 12—Donaldson Commons, NMC, Havre
- April 20—Miles Community College, Miles City
- April 21—Glendive High School, Glendive
- May 16—Outlaw Inn, Kalispell

Principals of schools in these areas can be expecting a letter providing information on the meeting place and included will be application forms for participants. The workshops are open to school administrators, educators, school nurses, and school board members. It is asked that no more than three people from each school attend. The AIDS workshops will be valuable and informative sessions designed to encourage integration of AIDS education and AIDS policies in each Montana school. Please take advantage of this opportunity. If more information is needed, please call the Office of Public Instruction AIDS program at 444-3178.

ETR Training

The AIDS Education Program at the Office of Public Instruction was very fortunate to have been chosen as one of the few state education departments to receive a week-long AIDS training workshop from ETR Associates which is an education training and research company based in Santa Cruz, California. Two other states, Idaho and Wyoming, have also been invited to participate in this workshop to be held in Billings.

The training is divided into two workshops. The first two days will be the Program Development Training which involves local school districts around the Billings area. The Program Development Training brings together school administrators, parents, students, school board members, community leadership such as clergy and youth-serving agencies and teachers. Using a community-team approach they form the basis for establishing a school-based AIDS education program which reflects the values, needs, diversity and unique perspectives of their community.

The second part of the training is a three-day workshop involving the participants of Montana, Idaho and Wyoming. These participants were chosen according to larger populated school districts and minority populations. The trainer training portion of the workshop is designed to prepare an experienced HIV/AIDS educator with additional in-depth skills to conduct in-district teacher trainings of HIV/AIDS prevention education. The topics covered include: knowledge and skills in education; training management and design; development, conducting, and evaluation of teacher training; skills in group management and skills in handling controversial issues.

The main objectives of the Office of Public Instruction AIDS program are to increase the number of schools in Montana providing AIDS education and to incorporate AIDS education into comprehensive health education programs. The ETR workshop is one more way of ensuring that school districts in Montana are provided with the information and training necessary to complete these objectives.

OPI Computer Bulletin Board

The Office of Public Instruction has developed an electronic bulletin board communicating system that is known as "Goliath." The bulletin board is an effective method of communicating at no cost to the school districts of Montana. There are 600 users from 400 schools that are involved in the functions of Goliath which include: leaving or retrieving private or public messages, uploading and downloading operations, and public announcements of workshops, inservices and meetings on a national or state level. To gain access to Goliath, please contact the AIDS Education Specialist at 444-3178 or write to: AIDS Education Specialist, Office of Public Instruction, State Capitol, Helena, MT 59620. Necessary information for access includes your name, address, phone number and a password consisting of between four and eight letters. Equipment requirements include any brand of computer, a modem and a telephone line. A user instructional manual is available for \$3.50 from the Office of Public Instruction.

Montana Academy of Sciences Symposium

The Montana State University's Academy of Sciences program is holding an AIDS seminar in conjunction with the organization's annual meeting. The seminar, "AIDS: A Montana Perspective," will be held on Friday, April 21, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Strand Union Building on the MSU campus in Bozeman. The seminar will include speaker presentations and panel discussions concerning AIDS, commercial exhibits presented by science-based businesses in Montana and the Northwest, a tour and program at the Museum of the Rockies Planetarium, and a reception and banquet for participants on Friday evening. The cost to register for the symposium will be \$10 in advance, \$20 on-site and \$2 for students.

Further information and registration materials are available from: Patricia Crowle, 2-208 Wilson Hall, Montana State University, Bozeman, MT 59717 or call 994-5023.



Montana Model Communicable Disease Control Policy

The Office of Public Instruction in cooperation with the Montana Department of Health and the Montana Human Rights Commission is developing a model communicable disease control policy to be disseminated to Montana school districts. The model policy can be used as a guideline for school districts in the process of developing their own policy or for making revisions on existing policies. It will also include information on standard procedures concerning sanitation issues and information on dealing with school-aged children and school staff who have contracted HIV/AIDS.

The policy is in the processing and developing stages and will, hopefully, be available to Montana school districts in May.

OPI AIDS Survey

In early May the Office of Public Instruction will conduct a survey of Montana principals to determine the number of schools integrating an AIDS education program in their education systems, in what area(s) AIDS education is occurring, the number of schools that have implemented a policy concerning AIDS in their school and the specifics of that policy. The importance of this survey cannot be stressed enough as it will provide the Office of Public Instruction with information needed to better accommodate the schools in Montana in AIDS education.

STD Guides

The State Department of Health has a surplus of Sexually Transmitted Disease teacher and student guides available upon request from the Office of Public Instruction or the Department of Health's STD office. The guides include information on sexually transmitted diseases as well as worksheets and activities for students.

Montana AIDS Statistics

Montana AIDS Cases Demographic Summary as of 2/15/89

Cases		
Reported Cases	27	100%
Reported Deaths	14	57%
Age		
Less than 5	0	0%
5-12	0	0%
13-19	0	0%
20-29	7	26%
30-39	14	52%
40-49	4	15%
Over 49	2	7%
Total	27	100%
Racial/Ethnic Group		
White	23	85%
American Indian	1	4%
Black	1	4%
Hispanic	2	7%
Other/Unknown	0	0%
Total	27	100%
Sex		
Female	3	11%
Male	24	89%
Total	27	100%

Risk Factor		
Homosexual/Bisexual Male	16	59%
IV Drug Abuser (IVDU)	3	11%
Homosexual Male & IVDA	2	7%
Hemophilia, etc.	2	7%
Heterosexual	3	11%
Transfusion, Blood Components	0	0%
Undetermined*	1	4%
Total	27	100%

County of Diagnosis		
Cascade	7	26%
Gallatin	1	4%
Lewis and Clark	3	11%
Missoula	6	22%
Silver Bow	1	4%
Yellowstone	6	22%
Out-of-State Diagnosis	3	11%
Total	27	100%

* Includes patients on whom risk information is incomplete (due to death, refusal to be interviewed, or loss to follow-up, and patients still under investigation).

Source: Montana AIDS Program, MDHES, February 15, 1989.

NOTE: There are ten (10) other AIDS cases which have been reported to Montana DHES. These were diagnosed and reported to Centers for Disease Control from other states. Those demographics are not included above.

Statistics for HIV tests and AIDS cases will be available through the Montana AIDS hotline beginning March 10, 1989. Montana statistics as well as national statistics can be obtained by calling the toll-free hotline number: 1-800-233-MONT (6668).

Funded through a cooperative agreement with:
Centers for Disease Control
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